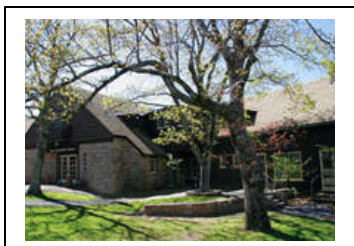


## Big Meadows Lodge

### Mile 51.2, Skyline Drive



Big Meadows Lodge, located at mile 51.2 on Skyline Drive, is named for a large grassy meadow near the lodge where deer often graze. The main lodge was built with stones cut from the Massanutten Mountain in 1939 by the Conservation Civilian Corps and mountain laborers.

The main lodge has 29 cozy, little rooms and was placed on the National Register of Historic Places on April 28, 1997. The Spottswood Dining Room, New Market Taproom and Craft Shop are located in the main lodge building.

Big Meadows offers a variety of rooms and cabins to suit the preferences of our guests. The Main Lodge, along with five cabins and six multi-unit buildings, are located within a short walking distance of the lodge and sits on approximately 10 acres of park land.

**Green Statement:** "Big Meadows Lodge is participating in the *Virginia Green* challenge to honor the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Blue Ridge Parkway and looks forward to celebrating 75 years of Shenandoah National Park in 2011."



### CORE ACTIVITIES for Green Lodging



**Optional Linen Service.** Virginia Green Lodging facilities must have some sort of system in place that allows guests to not have their sheets and towels changed every day. This facility pledges that they:

- Have signage in each guest room explaining the linen reuse procedures
- Change linens only upon request
- Train housekeeping staff on process for optional linen service
- Purchase water- and energy-efficient washers and dryers
- Use non-phosphate, non-toxic and biodegradable laundry detergents
- Minimize use of bleach and chlorinated chemicals



**Recycling and Waste Reduction.** Virginia Green Lodging facilities must recycle and are highly encouraged to maintain a comprehensive recycling program. This facility pledges that they:

- Provide the opportunity for guests to recycle: glass bottles, plastic bottles, aluminum cans, steel cans, newspaper, office paper
- Also recycle office paper, toner cartridges, cardboard, fluorescent lamps, batteries, electronic equipment
- Track overall solid waste costs

#### *Guest rooms*

- Use bulk soap dispensers instead of individual soaps/shampoos in guest rooms
- Instruct housekeeping staff to save and reuse unopened items

#### *Kitchen (or meetings/events)*

- Recycle fryer grease and/or filter grease prior to recycling
- Have an effective food inventory control to minimize waste

#### *Dining room (or meetings/events)*

- Use disposable foodservice items that are made with recycled content
- Use cloth napkins
- Use reusable coffee filters
- Use non-bleached napkins and coffee filters
- Provide condiments, cream and sugar, etc. in bulk
- Use water pitchers to minimize the use of single-use bottles

#### *Restrooms*

- Use bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms
- Purchase recycled-content paper towels and toilet paper

#### *Office*

- Reuse scrap paper for notes
- Purchase recycled paper with a high-percentage recycled content
- Make double-sided photocopies and avoid making extra photocopies
- Use electronic correspondence and forms when possible

#### *Building and grounds*

- Use green cleaning products that are dispensed in bulk
- Use reused building materials or those from sustainable sources
- Use latex low or no-VOC paints
- Re-use paint thinners
- Properly recycle and/or dispose of thinners and solvents (required by law)
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Use integrated pest management (IPM)
- Minimize use of pesticides and herbicides in landscaping



**Water Conservation.** The facility must have a plan for conserving water that should consider plumbing modifications and landscaping. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall water usage and wastewater

#### *Activities indoors*

- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Have installed:
  - High efficiency dishwashers
  - Low flow faucets and showerheads (use less than 2.5 gallons per minute)
  - Low flow toilets (use 1.6 gallons per flush or less)
  - Automatic faucets or toilets in public restrooms

#### *Activities outdoors*

- Have an effective landscape management plan that utilizes native species and minimizes lawn areas
- Have an effective storm water management plan that minimizes impervious areas (paving, concrete, etc.)
- Have installed rain barrels



**Energy Conservation.** The facility must have a plan in place that encourages replacement of lighting and equipment to energy-efficient alternatives. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall energy bills
- Have established a numeric goal to reduce energy usage over time
- Calculate the environmental impacts of the facility's energy usage by using a pollution calculator

*Heating and cooling*

- Have individual thermostats for each room/area; ensure they are correctly adjusted
- Have installed ceiling fans
- Regularly perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Keep office doors and windows closed in HVAC system is on

*Lighting*

- Use natural lighting
- Use lighting sensors to turn on/off lights
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off lights in unoccupied rooms
- Have installed compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and in canned lighting
- Have installed LED Exit Signs
- Have installed directional (downward-facing) lighting in parking areas and other outdoor areas

*Appliances and electronic devices*

- Use ENERGY STAR qualified appliances (commercial kitchens, heating and cooling, consumer electronics)
- Use ENERGY STAR qualified office equipment (computers, monitors, copiers, printers, etc.)
- Have adopted a policy / practice to turn off fans, computers, monitors and other devices in unoccupied rooms at the end of the workday or when otherwise not being used



**Green Events Package.** The facility must offer a "green" or "environmentally-friendly" package for conferences, meetings, and other events. Even if the facility only offers occasional, small events, at least recycling will be provided. This facility pledges that they:

- Promote the availability of "green meetings/conferences" in marketing packages
- Promote recycling, minimize the use of disposables and emphasize "low-impact" events

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For more information on Big Meadows Lodge, see <http://www.visitshenandoah.com/accommodations/big-meadows-lodge.aspx> or contact Wayne Soard at [soard-wayne@aramark.com](mailto:soard-wayne@aramark.com) or (540) 843-2101.

**Virginia Green** is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. **Virginia Green Hotels and Lodging Facilities** have been thoughtfully planned and designed to minimize their impacts on the environment. This lodging has met the established "core activities" for **Green Lodging** and has committed to communicate its activities to its guests.

For more information on **Virginia Green** program, see [www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/virginiagreen](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/virginiagreen) or [www.virginiagreentravel.org](http://www.virginiagreentravel.org).



Virginia Green is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

